

# The Future of Hancock Golf Course Community Engagement Process



- Hancock Golf Course was established in 1899 and is believed to be the oldest continually operating golf course west of the Mississippi.
- Hancock Golf Course operates as a 9 hole golf course. The golf course is maintained by 3 full time City of Austin employees. The pro shop and food concession is operated through a joint contract for operations of Lions and Hancock.



**Hancock Golf Course**

28 June 2011 AH



**Legend**

- Creeks and Drainage
- City of Austin Parks

This map has been produced by the Parks and Recreation Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

0 50 100  
Feet



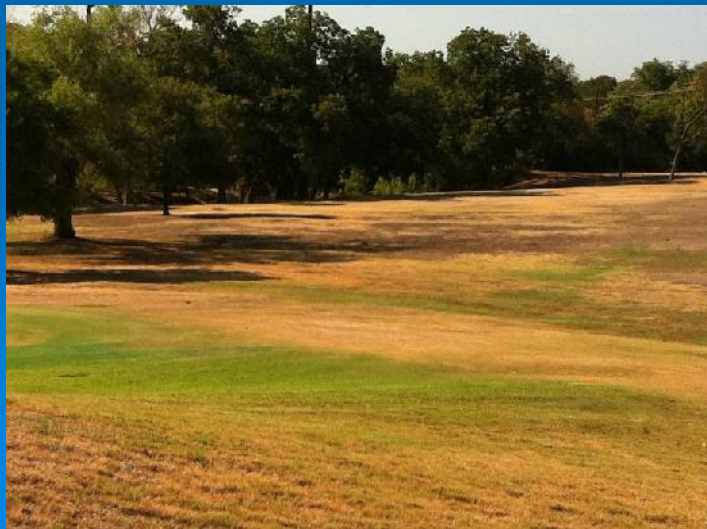
The golf course is on less than 50 acres. The holes are very short and safety corridors within the property continue to be a hazard. Several holes run adjacent to very busy roads and stray golf balls cause damage to vehicles and houses adjacent to the course on a regular basis.



- Budget cuts, drought conditions and the cost of potable water continue to impact course conditions at Hancock. Hancock is the only City of Austin course utilizing potable water; however reclaimed water is available
- The Golf Course staff continues to water the course according to the stage 2 water restrictions, focusing on maintaining the greens and tees
- In order to meet code requirements for use of the reclaimed water line, the course would require a new irrigation system. Cost to replace the irrigation system is estimated to be \$400,000



## Hancock – August 2011





## Hancock – 2011



Hancock – 2005

## Hancock Golf Course has not generated enough revenue to cover the obligations of the course in the last several years

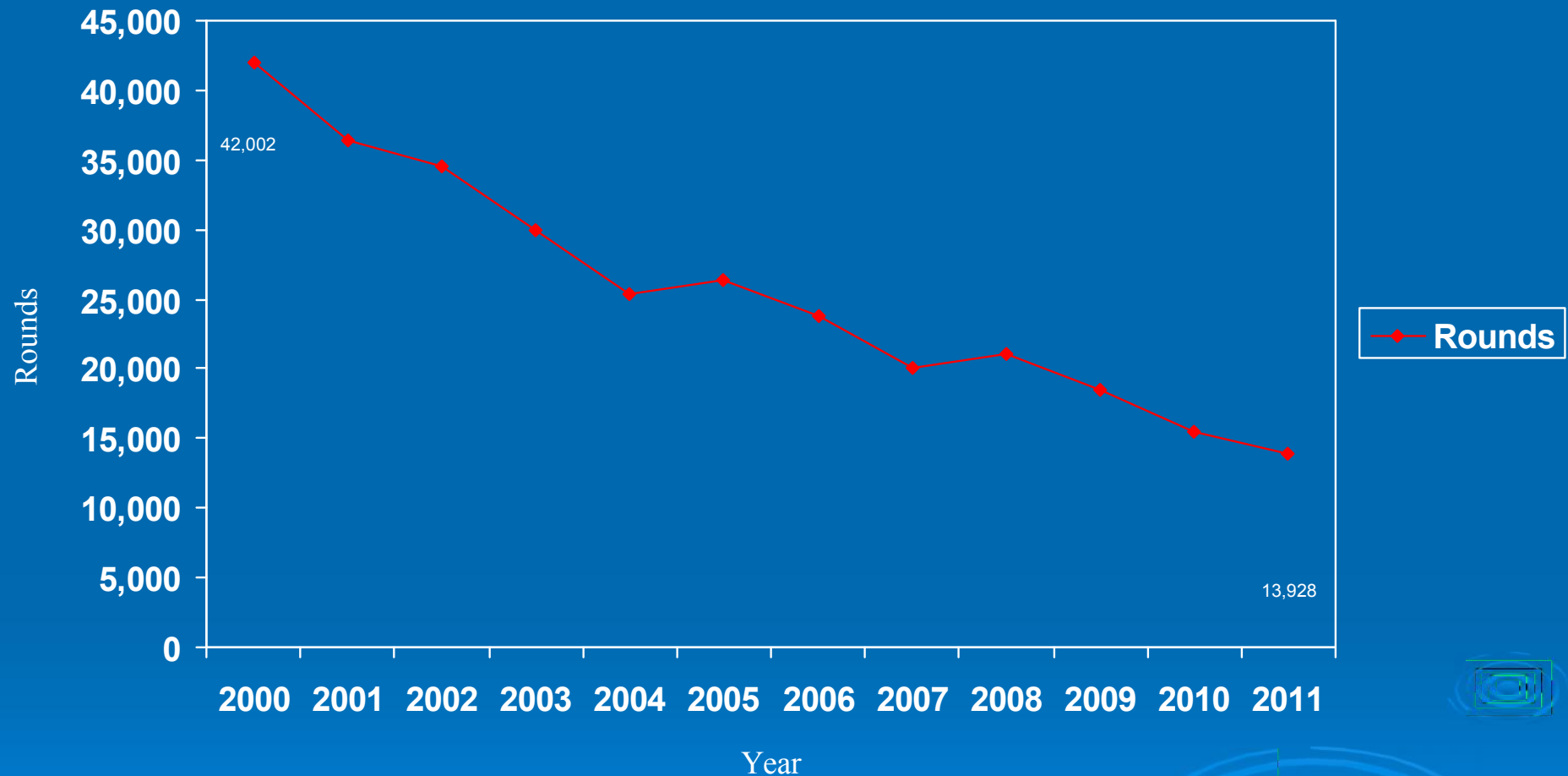
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Hancock Green Fee Revenue	\$189,487	\$203,022	\$194,258	\$158,717	\$153,769
Pro Shop Revenues	\$2,400	\$2,804	\$2,058	\$1,931	\$2,058
Hancock Total Revenues	<u>\$193,894</u>	<u>\$207,834</u>	<u>\$196,317</u>	<u>\$160,648</u>	<u>\$155,827</u>
Hancock Operating Expenditures	\$187,004	\$211,608	\$260,408	\$184,255	\$278,483
Mechanic Budget **	\$10,416	\$13,932	\$26,736	\$13,777	\$12,125
Interfund Transfers ***	\$142,669	\$141,442	\$134,008	\$79,820	\$83,315
Total Expenditures	<u>\$340,089</u>	<u>\$366,982</u>	<u>\$421,152</u>	<u>\$277,852</u>	<u>\$373,923</u>
Difference	<u>(\$146,195)</u>	<u>(\$159,148)</u>	<u>(\$224,835)</u>	<u>(\$117,204)</u>	<u>(\$218,096)</u>

Interfund Transfers \*\*      % of Golf Division Requirements  
 Mechanic Budget \*\*\*      % of maintenance mechanic budget

- The negative balance associated with operating Hancock Golf Course continues to impact the other City Courses
  - Reduces operating maintenance budget of the other City courses
  - Reduces Capitol Improvements at other City Courses
  - Impacts increased green fees at all City Courses



# Rounds at Hancock have declined by 67% since 2000



- Contributing factors to rounds decline
  - Course Conditions
  - Increased golf course competition
  - Difficulty of the course layout
  - Most golfers prefer 18 hole courses

# The City has begun a Community Engagement Process to determine the future of Hancock Golf Course.

- Step 1 - Engage the Golf Advisory Group
- Step 2 - Inform the Parks and Recreation Board of the process
- Step 3 – Engage the Neighborhood and Community/Special Interest groups
- Step 4 – Report findings of Community Engagement to the Parks and Recreation Board
- Step 5 – The Parks and Recreation Department will make a final determination on how best to utilize the park
- Step 6 – Report to Parks and Recreation Board and City Council the findings of the Community Engagement Process
- Step 7 – The Parks and Recreation Department will develop a plan to implement desired changes

